Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-21 (Cancelled)

Claim 22. (New): A method for increasing the expression of an exogenous nucleic acid molecule in T cells, comprising

(a) contacting the T cells *in vitro* with at least one stimulatory agent; and

(b) introducing the exogenous nucleic acid molecule into the T cells from step (a) *in vitro*, less than about 24 hours after contacting of said T cells,

such that the expression of the exogenous nucleic acid molecule is increased in the T cells; and

wherein said exogenous nucleic acid molecule is introduced into the T cells using a viral vector.

Claim 23. (New): The method of claim 22 wherein the viral vector is selected from the group consisting of recombinant retroviruses, adenovirus, adeno-associated virus, and herpes simplex virus-1.

Claim 24. (New): The method of claim 22 wherein the viral vector is a recombinant retrovirus.

Claim 25. (New): The method of claim 24 wherein the recombinant retrovirus is replication defective.

Claim 26. (New): The method of claim 22, wherein the T cells are primary T cells.

Claim 27. (New): The method of claim 22 wherein the at least one stimulatory agent is a super-antigen, a combination of a phorbol ester and a calcium ionophore, or comprises a protein tyrosine kinase activator.

Claim 28. (New): The method of claim 22, wherein the at least one stimulatory agent is an antibody or an antigen binding fragment thereof.

Claim 29. (New): The method of claim 22, wherein the at least one stimulatory agent interacts with the T cell receptor/CD3 complex.

Claim 30. (New): The method of claim 29 wherein the at least one stimulatory agent is an anti-CD3 antibody or a fragment thereof.

Claim 31. (New): The method of claim 22 wherein the at least one stimulatory agent interacts with a CD2 molecule on the T cells.

Claim 32. (New): The method of claim 22 wherein the at least one stimulatory agent is an antigen presented by an antigen presenting cell.

Claim 33. (New): The method of claim 22 wherein the at least one stimulatory agent is an anti-CD28 antibody or a fragment thereof.

Claim 34. (New): The method of claim 22 wherein the at least one stimulatory agent is a stimulatory form of a natural ligand of CD28.

Claim 35. (New): The method of claim 34 wherein the stimulatory form of a natural ligand of CD28 is B7-1 or B7-2.

Claim 36. (New): The method of any one of claims 22 to 32 wherein the at least one stimulatory agent is attached to a surface.

Claim 37. (New): The method of claim 36 wherein the surface is a bead, a tissue culture dish, or a cell surface.

Claim 38. (New): The method of any one of claims 22 to 37 wherein said nucleic acid molecule is introduced into said T cells between approximately 1 and less than 24 hours after stimulation of said T cells.

Claim 39. (New): The method of claim 38 wherein said nucleic acid molecule is introduced into said T cells approximately 10 hours after stimulation of said T cells.

Claim 40. (New): The method of any one of claims 22 to 37 wherein the T cells are further stimulated *in vitro* to increase their number.

Claim 41. (New): A method for increasing the expression of an exogenous nucleic acid molecule in T cells, comprising:

(a) contacting the T cells *in vitro* with at least one stimulatory agent, wherein the at least one stimulatory agent is a combination of a first agent which provides a primary activation signal to the T cells and a second agent which provides a costimulatory signal to the T cells; and

(b) introducing an exogenous nucleic acid molecule into the T cells from step (a) *in vitro* less than about 24 hours after contacting of said T cells,

such that the expression of the exogenous nucleic acid molecule is increased in the T cells; and

wherein said exogenous nucleic acid molecule is introduced into the T cells using a viral vector.

Claim 42. (New): The method of claim 41 wherein the viral vector is selected from the group consisting of recombinant retroviruses, adenovirus, adeno-associated virus, and herpes simplex virus-1.

Claim 43. (New): The method of claim 41 wherein the viral vector is a recombinant retrovirus.

Claim 44. (New): The method of claim 43 wherein the recombinant retrovirus is replication defective.

Claim 45. (New): The method of claim 41 wherein the T cells are primary T cells.

Claim 46. (New): The method of claim 41 wherein the first agent interacts with the T cell receptor/CD3 complex.

Claim 47. (New): The method of claim 46 wherein the first agent is an anti-CD3 antibody or a fragment thereof.

Claim 48. (New): The method of claim 41 wherein the first agent interacts with a CD2 molecule on the T cells.

Claim 49. (New): The method of claim 41 wherein the first agent is an antigen presented by an antigen presenting cell.

Claim 50. (New): The method of any one of claims 41-49 wherein the second agent is an anti-CD28 antibody or a fragment thereof.

Claim 51. (New): The method of any one of claims 41-49 wherein the second agent is a stimulatory form of a natural ligand of CD28.

Claim 52. (New): The method of claim 45 wherein the stimulatory form of a natural ligand of CD28 is B7-1 or B7-2.

Claim 53. (New): The method of any one of claims 41-48 wherein the first agent or the second agent is an antibody.

Claim 54. (New): The method of any one of claims 41-48 wherein the first agent and the second agent are antibodies.

Claim 55. (New): The method of claim 54 wherein the first agent and the second agent are attached to a surface.

Claim 56. (New): The method of claim 55 wherein the surface is a bead, a tissue culture dish or a cell surface.

Claim 57. (New): The method of claim 55 wherein the surface is a bead.

Claim 58. (New): The method of claim 55 wherein the T cells are further stimulated *in vitro* to increase their number.